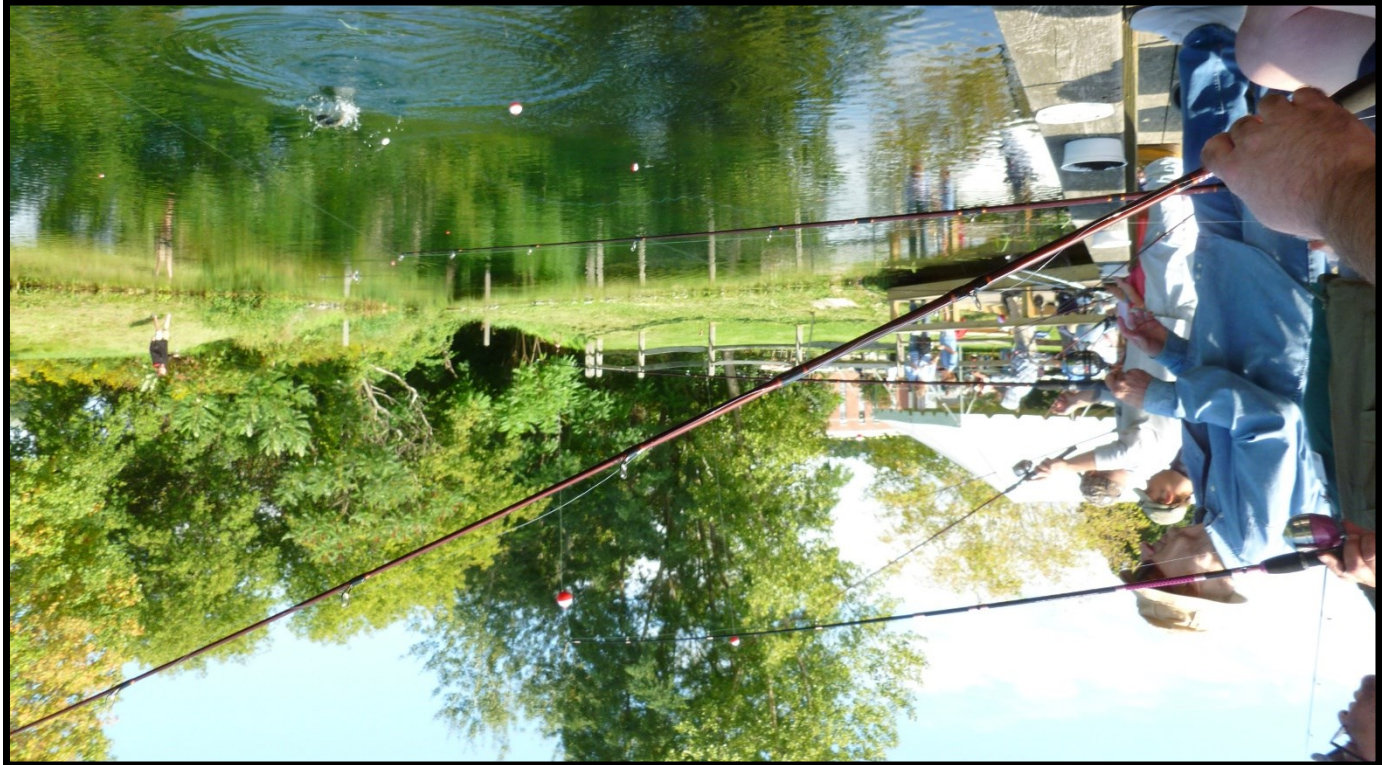




**Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

"FULFILLING THE PROMISE"





VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2017

The BUZZ WORD



Senator Bernie Sanders visited the Veterans' Home on Friday, March 17th. The Veterans, members and staff enjoyed meeting him and listening to him speak.



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

**325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on insuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.

VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.

For any Further Questions Please Contact:

**Mary Ryan, Executive Assistant
mary.ryan@vermont.gov
802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

Administration and Department Directors

Melissa Jackson, CEO/Administrator
447-6533
melissa.jackson@vermont.gov

Col. Al Faxon, COO/Deputy Administrator
447-6544
allan.faxon@vermont.gov

Steven McClafferty, Business Manager
447-2732
Steven.mcclafferty@vermont.gov

Patricia Crossman, Director of Nursing Services
447-6565
Patricia.crossman@vermont.gov

Cindy Rankin, Food Service Director
447-2815
cindy.rankin@vermont.gov

Michele Burgess, Activities Director
447-6520
michele.burgess@vermont.gov

Christina Cosgrove, Social Services Director
447-2792
christina.cosgrove@vermont.gov

Jon Endres, Environmental Services Director
447-6528
jon.endres@vermont.gov

Patti Parker, Housekeeping and Laundry Supervisor
447-2731
patricia.parker@vermont.gov

Jen Morrison, Program Manager of Rehab
447-6548

Karen Divis, Quality Assurance Nurse
447-2888
karen.divis@vermont.gov

Mary Hamilton, MDS
379-5279
mary.hamilton@vermont.gov

Gary Yelle, Admissions Coordinator and
Marketing Director
447-6539
gary.yelle@vermont.gov

Chaplain's Corner...

Howdy folks,



Holy Moly, we are almost half way through the Lenten season. If you haven't given up something for Lent, it's not too late. I am fasting by not going for seconds at the dinner table, a bad habit indeed. This Lenten season reminds us of what our Savior endured prior to being crucified on the cross. He was humiliated, tortured and broken, yet He truly cared for those who believed in Him. So no matter how severe we might think our fasting is, it does not come remotely close to the conditions to which He was subjected.

The journey through Lent is a way to place ourselves before God humbled, bringing in our hands no price whereby we can ourselves purchase salvation. It is away to confess our total inadequacy before God, to strip ourselves of all pretenses to righteousness, to come before God in dust and ashes. It is a way to empty ourselves of our false pride, of our rationalizations that prevent us from seeing ourselves as needy creatures of our external piety that blinds us to the beam in our own eyes.

Lent is not a time for others to repent; it is a time for US, God's people, to repent. It is our land that needs healing; we are the one who need to seek God's face.

Remember, do good, do no harm and stay in love with God.



God Bless, Chaplain Ken



VVH enjoyed a visit from Vermont Speaker of the House Representative, Mitzi Johnson. Joining the Speaker (L to R) is Al Faxon, COO VVH, Rep. William Botzow, Rep. Mary Morrissey, Speaker Johnson, Melissa Jackson CEO VVH, Rep. Rachael Fields and Rep. Alice Miller.

THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov
Click on About Our Home
Click on Newsletters
- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List

Please contact:

The Buzz Word Editor
Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 447-6510

Email: mary.ryan@vermont.gov

VVH WISH LIST

CD Players
CD's of any type of music
Newspaper Subscriptions
Costume Jewelry
Envelopes, Stamps, Pens, Writing Paper
Men's Caps
Men's belts and suspenders
300 piece easy grip puzzles
500 piece easy grip puzzles
Universal TV Remotes
Earphones for TV and Music
DVD Players
Outdoor Benches

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check for monetary donations out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201

THANK YOU

*Honoring
Those Who Have
Served*

DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate to which fund(s) you are donating:

Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members
Furniture
Haircuts
Clothing
Other personal needs

Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation
Supplies
Equipment

Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment
Large purchase

Activities Fund:

Entertainment

Music & Memory Fund:

iPods
Headphones
iTunes cards

**** We will not be accepting books or magazines at this time. THANK YOU to all who have donated to our Veterans at VVH.**

*From the Administrator...
Melissa Jackson*

Happy Spring,

We continue to be on schedule with the kitchen project and are planning on a late summer ribbon cutting for the finished project.


VVH has had many visitors lately including Senator Bernie Sanders and the Speaker of the Vermont House, Mitzi Johnson. The main reason for Senator Sanders' visit was to meet with the Veterans and they had many questions for him regarding the current state of the situation in Washington, DC. The Senator provided his comments and thanked all the Veterans for their service.

This was Speaker Johnson's first visit to the Home and we spent the majority of her visit touring the facility. She was impressed with the facility and the staff. She ended her visit telling us about her visit to Normandy, France and the impact of seeing the D-Day beaches had on her.

If the snow ever stops and the temperature warms up our Veterans and Members will be outside in droves. This is just another reminder to watch your speed on the property. Now is also a good time to go through your loved ones belongings, taking home the winter clothes and other items they may not need at this time.

Melissa





Senior Crimestoppers
Powered by the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation

5100 Poplar Ave., Ste. 711
Memphis, TN 38137
Toll Free: (800) 529-9096
Fax: (901) 529-4218
www.SeniorCrimestoppers.org

**New Look but the Same Important Mission:
Continuing to Help Keep Seniors Safe and Secure**


With the start of a new year, we have updated the Senior Crimestoppers program logo with a new look, but we still have the same important mission; to help keep senior living communities safe and secure and provide an enhanced quality of life.

Each year all participating facilities in the Senior Crimestoppers program receive a confidential tracking graph charting the effect of overall incident reduction in their facility. This is benchmarked from historical past incidents as compared to currently reported incidents through calls to our tips line. These individual facility statistics are then compiled into a national profile showing the overall effect that Senior Crimestoppers is having in all facilities that it serves.

The result of all of the program components working together is a 95% reduction of incidents of crime in Senior Crimestoppers facilities since the inception of the program. We're proud of this, and we work hard every day to maintain and even improve this level of success. This cumulative effort provides safer, more secure and higher quality of life living environments for residents, staff members, family members and visitors.

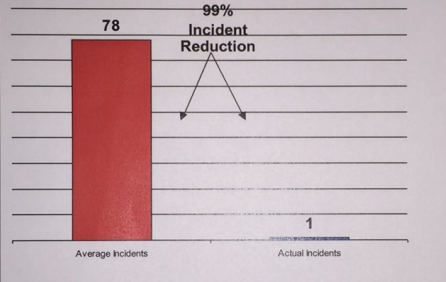
Accordingly, we are pleased to enclose your facility's Incident Reduction Graph and your **2016 Safe Facility Ribbon** signifying your facility's participation in this accomplishment. We encourage you to display this ribbon so all who live, work, and visit your facility will see the positive effects that can be achieved through adopting a zero tolerance-to-crime platform.

Again, congratulations on being an integral part of keeping our seniors safe, and thank you for your continued support of the Senior Crimestoppers program.



**2016
SAFE
FACILITY
AWARD**
Senior Crimestoppers

Vermont Veterans Home
**Senior Crimestoppers
Member Facilities
Cumulative Incident Reduction Statistics**
As of December 31, 2016



Category	Value
Average Incidents	78
Actual Incidents	1

Chart Legend

1. Average Incidents Bar: The average number of crime incidents cited in the attached graph is confidential information supplied by each participating facility in Senior Crimestoppers at the time of program commencement. This previous level of incidents experienced is pro-rated and factored by month via the Senior Crimestoppers Crime-Trac System to provide an expected number of crime incidents for each future month, based upon the actual past facility experience.
2. Actual Incidents Bar: The actual incident column represents the actual number of crime incidents reported and experienced after the inception of Senior Crimestoppers in each facility. This information is tracked daily and is constantly being monitored against the previous statistics recorded by the facility.
3. Incident Reduction/Increase Percent: Represents the true and accurate effect that Senior Crimestoppers is having for the group the graph is representing, i.e.: facility, state, regional, or national. It serves as a true barometer of results, based on fact.

Donations

On behalf of the Veterans/Members, we
sincerely thank the following for their
generous donations.

B.P.O.E Lodge No. 1560
Linda Vondale & Edgar Holden
James Binginot
Gary Moore & Stacy Bull
Pownal American Legion Aux
Phyllis Roberts
DAV Auxiliary
VFW District 4
Scot & Beth Hall
Kathy Sollien
VFW Benn County Post 1332
American Legion Post 69
DAV Auxiliary
SF Financial Services, LLC
American Legion Post 69
Kenneth & Elaine Coonradt
American Legion Aux Green Mtn Post 1
BPOE 567

In Memory of:

Barbara Hall
Scot & Beth Hall

Marcia Meerwarth
Green Mountain Christian Center

Carmen DeNatale
Jody Serraro

John Scarey
Ray Mullineaux
William & Carol Kelley
Kathleen Hoisington Eckstein & Mary
O'Donnell
Elizabeth Levesque

James Dooley
Barbara Murphy

David Girard
Fraternal Order of Eagle #2551

Jeannette Maroni
Anonymous





*From Deputy Administrator...
Colonel Al Faxon*



Ha....welcome to the first day of spring....just before our most recent dump of snow, I remarked to one of our Veterans....we really did not receive much snow this year; he observed me taking this picture a couple of days later and said “that’s why its called **Average Snowfall for the Year**” oh well.



Spring must really be on its way even if it does not quite feel like it yet....the other day when I arrived at VVH the deer yard was full of ducks, squirrels, chipmunks, and of course deer, the woodchucks must still be sleeping. As we did last year, we must relocate the bird and squirrel feeders away from the building because of the critters that come to feed, to include skunks....sorry about that!

S/F
AF

Serenity Singers visit North Village





April Activity Events

**Las Vegas day (re-scheduled
from March) will be on Sunday
April 2 at 1:30**

**April 8 - Miss Vermont
USO show**

**April 15 - Vietnam Flag
Raising**

**April - 26 Super Bingo,
sponsored by the
Arlington American
Legion**





The American Legion and the United Methodist Bennington Mission Team stopped by today to make a generous donation for the guest room renovation.

Pictured are: Ken Coonradt, John Heald, Pastor Richard McSherry, Nancy Muire, Judy Hill, Irene Hackett Kendy Skidmore and Melissa Jackson.

**Donation from
B.P.O.E Lodge
No. 1560**

Left to right:
Al Faxon,
Vicki Siliski,
Melissa
Jackson and
Kelly Brown



**Donation from
American
Legion Post 84.**

Pictured left to right: Al Faxon, Richard Vachon, Larry Greene, Dan Hillard, Melissa Jackson and Richard Vitagliano.



The Vermont Veterans' Home received a generous donation to the members assistance fund from the Bennington Elks Club. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Pictured are: Al Faxon, Charlie Boyle, Art Charron and Melissa Jackson.



Kitchen construction continued...



The kitchen renovations are moving right along. The remaining appliances, fixtures, and ceiling tiles have been removed. Some walls have been removed and framing for the new ones have been put up.



Grand Opening

The Resident Council Merchandise Display Case

Items for sale:

- VVH ornaments - \$8.00
- Travel mugs - \$3.00
- Ball caps - \$20.00
- Tote Bags - \$15.00
- Polo Shirts - \$25.00
- Tee shirts - \$15.00
- Sweat shirt - \$25.00
- Hoodies - \$35.00
- Post cards - Free



Alan Gibney Pavilion



A rainy day
delivery of
supplies for
the new
Pavilion.



The One Man Band

